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THE GARDEN NURSERIES

Three Hundred and Fifty Acres

A. E. Wohler, Owner

Montgomery Avenue, Penn Valley, Narberth, Pa.

ORIENTAL WISTARIAS

Without any doubt Wistaria is the finest flowering vine in cultivation for the temperate climate. It is adaptable to all conditions, for pergolas, to cover unsightly buildings, to beautify lovely buildings, as formal, tree-like plants for formal gardens, in bush form on the lawn, and many other purposes.

Wistaria may be raised from seed and under certain favorable conditions may produce flowers within a reasonable time. Many nurseries sell seedling Wistaria, as they can be produced cheaply, but the unfortunate result for the unlucky buyer is, they may not flower in his life time. For good and reasonably prompt results, it is absolutely necessary that Wistaria must be produced, grafted, from flowering vines. This process of grafting has a distinct tendency to slow up the growth and will under all circumstances produce flowers within a reasonable time after transplanting from the nurseries. Under certain favorable conditions, one can be assured of flowers at once. Under no circumstances should gardeners plant seedling Wistaria.

Our Wistaria are all grafted from scions taken from blooming vines or from flowering wood. Our stock should bloom very soon after planting. Grafted plants cannot be sold as cheaply as seedlings. Seedlings may not bloom for ten years.

If you have a greenhouse, I suggest that you pot a few of the flowering vines. We can furnish hand-made pots.

*Prepare to exhibit our WISTARIA at
the next Spring Flower Show.*

Chinese Wistaria

CHINESE WISTARIA (*Wistaria Chinensis*) is an excellent sort and the most commonly known Wistaria, very fragrant, and is available in Purple and White.

WISTARIA CHINENSIS—Purple. This is the most popular variety of all. Quite common, but good. Grafted plants. Seven-year-old plants are grafted, trained specimens, heavy, twice transplanted.



Wistaria Chinensis, grafted vines bloom.

2 years, \$1.50; 3 years, \$2.50; 5 years, \$5.00; 7 years, \$7.50

WISTARIA CHINENSIS ALBA—White, more fragrant than the purple form. Grafted stock.

2 years, \$1.50 3 years, \$2.50

NOTE: We will pay the postage on one, two and three-year-old Wistaria vines, but the larger vines as well as the Standards will be shipped Express Collect.



Wistaria Floribunda Naga Noda

Japanese Longcluster Wistaria

JAPANESE LONGCLUSTER or **WEEPING WISTARIA** is the most picturesque of all Wistaria and will certainly take the place of the common sort as soon as enough plants are available, at least for use as a pergola vine; a glance at our illustrations will prove that. The flower clusters are very much elongated, the flowers being somewhat thinly distributed along the central cord, or stem, producing an unrivaled, graceful effect.

Be sure to order one or two vines at once, the supply is limited. If we have sold out when your order arrives, your order may be booked either for next fall or spring planting season.

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA (Wistaria Multijuga)—Purple. Flower clusters of medium length on young plants. The old plant from which our stock was produced frequently has racemes 30 inches long. This variety probably will bloom for you at once.

1 year, \$1.00; 2 years, \$2.50; 3 years, \$3.50; 4 years, \$5.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA KAME NODA. Purple flowers, 12 to 15 inches long. one of the better sorts and greatest depth of color.

1 year, \$2.00 2 years, \$3.00 3 years, \$4.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA PENN VALLEY LONGCLUSTER. Racemes 24 to 40 inches long, of a good purple. This sort should produce flowers at once, but they would be undersize, of course; the vine must become established before the full length can be expected. Seventy-five to 80 per cent. bloom the first year.

1 year, \$3.00 2 years, \$4.00 3 years, \$5.00

NOTE: We will pay the postage on one, two and three-year-old Wistaria vines, but the larger vines as well as the Standards will be shipped Express Collect.



View from the northwest, showing somewhat more than half of that side of The Wistaria of Ushijima, or "Seven-foot" Wistaria. The visitors include soldiers as well as civilians, who are here in honor of the occasion and to enjoy the grand display

Ancient Wistarias of Japan Give Long Flower Racemes

By P. H. DORSETT, (Maryland)

THE Wistarias are, without question, the most spectacular and best of our strong-growing, early-flowering deciduous climbers. This is attested by the many fine specimen plants to be found in the home grounds, gardens, and parks throughout the temperate region of the United States. These varieties bear short to medium-long racemes of white, lavender, or purple flowers; but none of the plants I have seen growing here, or have heard of, bear flower racemes nearly so long as those I saw on two plants, near Tokyo, Japan, in the Spring of 1929.

The Ushijima, or "Seven-foot Wistaria," the older and larger of the two vines, is near the village of Komatsu, a short distance from the railway station at Kasukabe; and the Koshigaya, or "Five-foot Wistaria," is near the village of Koshigaya.

As Agricultural Explorer of the United States Department of Agriculture, I first saw these remarkably-large, old vines on April 18, 1929, when the flower buds were just beginning to unfold. On my second visit to see them on May 15th, the two vines were completely covered with a mass of exquisitely-beautiful, light-lavender flowers. At that time the many flower racemes measured, even though they had not completed their growth, from thirty-six to forty-seven inches in length. This unusual display of thousands of long, slender flower racemes, of a delicate shade of lavender, moving gracefully to and fro in sunshine and shadow, was most fascinating and excelled anything of the kind I had ever seen.

The numerous canes which form the main body of the Ushijima Wistaria, and range from a few to many inches in diameter, ascend from one central crown, and as a whole, are about 25 feet in circumference. The overhead spread of this

The Wistarias of Japan are an intriguing subject, and presented at first hand by a man who has actually seen them in their native habitat, makes the discussion doubly interesting.

vine is given as eighty-four hundred square feet and its age as many hundred years; locally it is said one thousand. The Koshigaya Wistaria is composed of six canes which arise from one crown and have a combined circumference of about twelve feet; its overhead spread is given

as fifty-four hundred square feet and its age being approximately three centuries.

The Ushijima Wistaria was declared a National Monument on January 18, 1928, and is therefore preserved for posterity; but up to the time of my last visit to the Koshigaya Wistaria, May 15th, 1929, it had not been so designated. However, its age, size, length of flower racemes, and beauty, merit such recognition, and in time, no doubt, this will be accomplished.

These plants belong to the species *Wistaria floribunda*, but more than likely are horticultural varieties of it.

The plants are accessible from Tokyo, and can be reached in less than an hour's



At the water's edge and extending partly over it, to the right, is a portion of the southern side of the Koshigaya or "Five-foot" Wistaria

ride by train from that city. They are well worthy of a visit by plant lovers, as well as by those who enjoy seeing the unusual and beautiful in Nature, for they are indeed unique and if seen are very much to be admired and never to be forgotten.

The Japanese practice of serving at their flower festivals, confections, in the top of which are imbedded, preserved, or otherwise processed blooms of their honored flowers, is truly unique and extremely interesting.

If such a practice was adopted in the United States in connection with the Apple Blossom Festival, in Winchester, Virginia; the Mid-Winter Rose Carnival in Pasadena, California; the Japanese Flowering Cherry Display, in Washington, D. C., and other flower festivals throughout the country, a much greater personal interest might be awakened and a more extended and lasting appreciation of such occasions be accomplished.

It would be interesting to learn, if, and where, older, larger, and longer-flowered Wistarias are to be found in Japan or other parts of the Far East, or throughout the world. I trust that in case such plants are known, this paper may be the means of bringing them to the attention of horticulturists and plant lovers throughout the world.

Wistaria Facts

ONE of the finest of hardy vines is the Wistaria, and an old vine in full flower is a beautiful sight.

Non-flowering of Wistaria may be due to any of various reasons. They are very easily grown from seed, but there is considerable variation in the seedlings. Often these seedlings do not come into flower for an indefinite number of years and they are therefore certain to prove unsatisfactory. To give satisfaction, the



Japanese maidens with 47-inch racemes from the Ushijima Wistaria. Background is a canopy of thousands of such flowers



A nearby view of a portion of one side of the Ushijima Wistaria. The large festoons of long, slender racemes of light-lavender flowers are unique and exquisitely beautiful



Canes of the Ushijima Wistaria

The base and a part of the trellis and upper portion of the Ushijima Wistaria, as it appeared April 18, 1929, a short time before the flowers appeared. The cluster of canes near the ground measures about 8 feet in diameter. The translation of the Japanese poem on the trellis support at the left is: "When you are careful of your character and your mind, people will respect you."

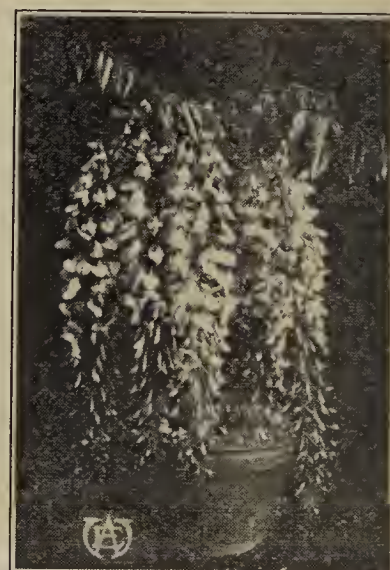
plants should be propagated vegetatively from good early-flowering specimens. This is especially true of the Chinese Wistaria. Wistaria floribunda is more likely to start flowering while young.

They may be propagated by layering, grafting, cuttings of roots two inches long, and hardwood cuttings under glass.

Wistaria thrives in an acid soil and it is advisable to mix peat thoroughly and deeply into the soil before planting.

When plants refuse to flower there are several things recommended that may induce flowering. The use of superphosphate as the only fertilizing material for a time, will sometimes induce flowering. In Japan, Wistaria is carefully pruned each year; this resulting in better blooming. If the wood is pruned back each year to the spurs, the wood will be hardened sufficiently to induce flowering. The method used is much the same as that

used for pruning Hydrangea p.g. for large flowers.—(*Bulletin Michigan State Florists Ass'n*)



Examples of WISTARIA as a pot plant, Wistaria floribunda varieties

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA MURASAKI NODA. Purple blooms, 24 or more inches long; strong grower, very free flowering. By the Japanese rated as "the" purple sort. "Murasaki" means purple.

1 year, \$2.50 2 years, \$3.50 3 years, \$4.50

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA NAGA NODA, "the five-foot Wistaria."

Extra long Japanese Wistaria. A variety of W. Multijuga with astonishingly long clusters of purple flowers. On a well-established vine they will run three to five feet in length. Three vines of this variety are known to exist in the Philadelphia district, where they attract a great many visitors, all marveling at the freakish length of flowers. For some reason this variety has escaped cultivation, but is again being produced by us. Naga Noda is being offered by other nurseries at much higher prices, 2 to 3-year-old vines as high as \$15.00 each, and the existing demand has permitted these high prices, but our large stock has enabled us to cut that price in half.

1 year, \$2.00; 2 years, \$4.00; 3 years, \$5.00; 4 years, \$7.50

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA KYUSHAKU, a recent importation from Japan. The flowers are "nine feet long." That perhaps is poetic license, but a length of 4 to 7 feet is quite common for this variety. Kyushaku produces probably the ultimate length of Wistaria flowers. We have the honor of being the first firm to introduce this variety to American horticulture.

1 year, \$3.50; 2 years, \$5.00; 3 years, \$7.50; 4 years, \$10.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA PRAECOX (Issai)—Blue. Blooms in one year after grafting, and in 3 years they bear over 25 clusters in 1 to 2 ft. of beautiful purplish blue. This may be used as a vine, but it is not extremely vigorous and is best for limited spaces. It makes an ideal bush in the garden and the real variety for pot culture.

1 year, \$2.00 2 years, \$4.00 3 years, \$5.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA PRAECOX, White, a white form of the above.

1 year, \$2.00 2 years, \$4.00 3 years, \$5.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA ROSEA (Rose Weeping Wistaria). An interesting variation; a favored color in Japan is this superior variety of Pink Weeping Wistaria. All vines are produced from selected stock plants. Flower clusters of medium length on young plants; 24 to 30 inches on established vines. This Wistaria with its lovely clear pink clusters is a real sensation. To meet the growing demand for pink flowers, we have introduced this desirable novelty.

1 year, \$1.50; 2 years, \$3.00; 3 years, \$5.00; 4 years, \$7.50

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA RUBRUM. Deep pink or red. We have not seen this variety in bloom and have no first-hand knowledge of the size of flowers nor the actual color. Our plants came to us direct from Japan, from one of the better nurseries in that country.

1 year, \$2.00 2 years, \$4.00 3 years, \$5.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA SHIRO NODA. White form of Murasaki Noda. Bloom clusters 24 to 30 inches long. Also called "Fringe or Lacy Wistaria." Our stock is limited. The plants offered are in bud

1 year, \$3.00; 2 years, \$4.00 3 years, \$5.00

WISTARIA FLORIBUNDA VIOLACEA PLENA. This variety is of great decoration value, largely on account of its impressive, substantial-looking flowers. The flowers are not unlike double Russian violet, a deep violet blue, and it is rated as being the deepest colored of all the double Wistaria. It is a distinct novelty of great value. Clusters of medium length.

1 year, \$1.50 2 years, \$3.00 3 years, \$5.00 4 years, \$6.50

NOTE: We will pay the postage on one, two and three-year-old Wistaria vines, but the larger vines as well as the Standards will be shipped Express Collect.



Standard Wistaria

STANDARD WISTARIA or WISTARIA IN TREE FORM. Wistaria grown in this manner have many advantages. The flowers are displayed to greater advantage; the trees can be used by gateways, as accent in formal gardens and as individual trees in border plantings. When one is anxious to get results quickly the Standard Wistaria may also be used as a vine. Simply plant this little tree where you want the vine developed. By so doing you will get quicker results and flowers sooner than you would if you used our 3 and 4-year-old vines, as most of the Standards are at least 6 years old. They generally produce the second year, if not the first, after you plant them. The Wistaria in tree form have stems at least 4 feet high, and the top is likely to be from 2 to 3 feet high. For that reason they cannot be sent by Parcel Post, but are shipped by express or freight at your expense.

STANDARD or TREE-FORM WISTARIA (4 foot stems) can be had in the following varieties:

Chinese Purple, two sizes	\$12.50 and \$10.00 each
Floribunda Rosea	\$15.00 each